

For Immediate Release

## Catch a glimpse of Springfield's future at Field Guide 2030 launch party Feb. 6



City Manager Greg Burris and Field Guide 2030 chair Mark McNay invite all Springfieldians to pull on their hiking boots and join them for a trek 20 years into Springfield's future at the Field Guide 2030 launch party, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Feb. 6 at 425 Downtown event center. Attendees will learn how they can use Field Guide 2030 to affect change in their community through civic engagement.

For more than two years, community and business representatives, led by the Field Guide Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee, drafted a set of strategic goals for the next 20 years. This collective vision is detailed in Field Guide 2030, a 20-year strategic plan designed to establish a route for Springfield's future. The guide contains 13 chapters with four unifying themes ó sustainability, civic engagement, regionalism and minimizing poverty ó that address the most pressing issues in our community at this time. The process included a listening tour of 45 meetings to collect citizen input, evaluation of five community assessments, consideration of organizational strategic planning processes, input from all segments in our community, regional counterparts and City Council and the Greene County Commission. A Horizon Scanning Committee comprised of citizens and City and County staff identified "mega-trends" that could affect our community over the next 20 years, and their report was provided to each planning committee.

"This is not a typical City strategic plan, focusing on bricks and mortar. It is a community strategic plan that addresses a wide variety of issues some cities might shrink away from," says City Manager Greg Burris. "That is not our style in southwest Missouri. Hundreds of citizens who are passionate about these issues spent hundreds of hours analyzing information and trends to put this plan together. Some of the action items have already been completed and yet others are in progress. We look forward to continued work with stakeholders on these goals for many years."

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